FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 AUGUST 1984

Plane Hijacking

An Iran Air plane, carrying 304 passengers, was hijacked during an internal flight and forced to fly to Cairo after refueling in Bahrain, Tehran radio reported. MENA reported that the 18 hijackers demanded fuel and food. It later added that the plane left Cairo on 8 August for Italy.

Gulf Conflict

Military Situation — An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA denied an IRNA report that an Iranian plane had shot down an Iraqi plane along the southern front. The spokesman reiterated that the only Iraqi air action on 7 August involved the attack on a "large maritime target" south of Khark Island. A Lloyd's Insurance Company spokesman confirmed the attack on the Greek-managed Liberian tanker *Friendship L* , according to INA. In reporting the attack, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio declared that all the Iraqi planes had returned safely, although an IRNA report later claimed that an Iraqi plane had been shot down during the attack.

Diplomatic Developments — Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim arrived in Oman where he discussed bilateral relations and the Iran-Iraq war in talks with Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id, WAKH reported. Earlier, a Kuwaiti official cited by the Kuwait paper *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* denied reports that the issue of leasing Kuwaiti islands to Iraq was discussed during Ibrahim's recent visit to Kuwait.

In Tehran, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi stressed that Iran cannot agree to a compromise peace with Iraq because "that would not be in the interest of our system" and such a peace would "wipe out the achievements of the Islamic Revolution." In any case, the issues of peace and war are decided by the leader, not by the government, he pointed out in his remarks, which were broadcast by Tehran radio. He also strongly denied rumors that Iran's political moves are in conflict with its military moves.

Red Sea Explosions

The Iranian Foreign Ministry, in a statement reported by IRNA, accused the United States and Israel of mining the Red Sea in a "conspiracy" designed to discredit Iran and make the sea unsafe for Muslim pilgrims. It was clear that the United States and the "the Zionist regime" would resort to such a move to retaliate for their defeats in Lebanon and for the failure of their political and military schemes in the Persian Gulf, the statement contended. Earlier, during a press conference broadcast by Tehran radio, Iranian Prime Minister Musavi denied any Iranian involvement in the mining of the Red Sea and the Suez Canal area, claiming that the Islamic Jihad organization is "unknown" to the Iranian authorities. He warned that Iran "cannot remain silent" if its ships are harassed while passing through the Suez Canal.

Meanwhile, Paris radio reported that the Egyptian foreign minister is likely to request French assistance in removing mines from the Red Sea during his forthcoming talks with officials in France. The PDRY foreign minister said he would discuss the Red Sea explosions in talks with his counterpart in Kuwait, KUNA noted. In Israel, a security source cited by *HA'ARETZ* stressed that Israel will not "sit back with its arms folded" if the mines jeopardize free navigation to Elat. As for the effect of the mines on shipping, XINHUA disclosed that two Chinese ships were hit by mines in the Red Sea on 31 July and 3 August respectively. Nevertheless, the Egyptian chairman of the Suez Canal Authority stated that the "limited explosions" in the Red Sea are having no effect on the volume of shipping passing through the canal, MENA reported.

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Paper Decries Western 'Propaganda' Efforts

LD080656 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Kabul, August 7, BAKHTAR — Daily Kabul *NEW TIMES* published an article disclosing filthy methods used by the Western press in order to distort the truth about Afghanistan.

While the Government of Afghanistan is restoring old mosques and building new ones, the newspaper wrote, the Western press bewails the "ordeals of the faithful."

While the government parcels out aid to the peasants, supplies them with fertilizers and farm machinery, the Western newspapers speak of "growing discontent" among the peasantry.

But the favourite "hobby" of anti-Afghan propaganda is reporting the "victories" of the dushmans. It is already quite clear that the counter-revolutionary forces have not succeeded in doing what was expected of them. They are not supported by the population and they continue to exist only thanks to foreign aid, squabbles over which lead to ever-new divisions in their disunited camp. However, the weaker the forces of the rebels, the grander their exploits are made to appear on the pages of the Western press.

Citing nameless eyewitnesses, the newspaper went on to say, the bourgeois press reported some time ago "heavy fighting" between the rebels and government troops in the city of Paghman, northwest of Kabul. A West German journalist, Hubert Kuschnik, visited the place and saw, instead of the desolate ruins described in the "front-line reports," kindergartens which the state has housed in mansions surrounded by dense greenery.

A sample of "precise documentary" misinformation is afforded by the Paris *LE MONDE*. The article said it has dumbfounded its readers with a long list of Afghan communities that have allegedly been razed to the ground by air bombings. But when Francois Lepo, an Argentinian journalist, visited these settlements which still exist despite the affirmations of *LE MONDE*, he found no traces of any bombings.

The Western news agencies have repeatedly reported the assassination of members of the DRA leadership and were later obliged to refute their own reports. All records were broken in this respect by FRANCE-PRESSE. At first it spread the news of the assassination of Anahita Ratebzad, and the following day calmly telexed the news that Anahita Ratebzad had appeared in a television programme and delivered a speech.

The Afghan daily reminded, that "the Indian *NEW WAVE* weekly" had named some of the authors of the anti-Afghan slanders. They are employees of the CIA and the British special service MI-6, operating under the "cover" of the American and British Embassies in Pakistan and India.

The data published by the India weekly are confirmed by the British *GUARDIAN*. This paper says that it is not difficult to spot the cloven hoof of the CIA behind the divers "reports from Kabul."

Repeated attempts have been made to supplement the fabrication of misinformation with the fabrication of the facts themselves, Kabul *NEW TIMES* added, the Western instructors take advantage of the readiness of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries to do whatever they are told in exchange for military and financial aid. And so the dushmans carry out acts of sabotage their sponsors hope to be able to ascribe to the Afghan authorities. Thus, in Mazar-e Sharif, an attempt was made to blow up the famous Muslim shrine, the Hazrat Ali Mosque in Herat. The counter-revolutionaries scattered defiled pages of the Koran, affirming that this had been inspired by the government.

They commit many terrorist acts disguised as soldiers of the Afghan Armed Forces. All this is done in order, on the one hand to discredit the government, and on the other, to cause the public throughout the world to shudder over the "brutality and barbarism" of the Kabul authorities.

Teachers murdered and pupils knifed to death at their desks, hospitals blown-up and mullahs shot down on the thresholds of mosques. The Western press prefers to ignore such facts, the newspaper concluded. It fulfils the orders of those who are [words indistinct] to prolong, at all costs, the "undeclared war" against the sovereign state of Afghanistan, to reap some advantage from the death and the sufferings of thousands of people, the newspaper concluded.

IRNA: Mujahidin Capture Ghazni Garrison, Burn Camps

LD071736 Tehran IRNA in English 1453 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 7, IRNA — Afghan Muslim mujahidin who are fighting the Soviet-backed regime of Afghanistan, set ablaze military camps belonging to the Soviet and state forces in Paghman region in Kabul Province, last week.

According to reports, the Soviet and state forces, due to stepped up mujahidin operations, are forced to return to their military bases in Kabul at nights so that, after securing reinforcements, they return to fight mujahidin during the day.

Other reports received from Afghanistan indicate that during the past week, the Muslim fighters beseiged an important garrison adjacent to the city of Ghazni. After this confrontation, the military personnel inside the garrison surrendered themselves together with their arms to the Muslim mujahidin.

Following the garrison's surrender, Soviet helicopter gunships heavily bombarded it.

Furthermore, the Soviet occupation forces, who are patrolling with their tanks and other vehicles in the city of Kabul, in an effort to maintain order in the city, recently opened fire on the civilian population.

According to an eye-witness, a Soviet tank, while patrolling one of the streets, intentionally ran over a private car which resulted in the killing of all its passengers except the driver.

Gandhi on Foreign Support for Punjab 'Extremists'

BK071618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, has said that the extremists are interested in keeping the Punjab issue alive to get money from abroad. In an interview to a Hungarian newspaper, Mrs Gandhi said the demand for a separate Sikh state is not being raised in this country but only by a section of prosperous Punjabi community abroad. She said some people from that state settled in the United States, Canada, and different European countries started the slogan of a separate state and had been remitting money to extremists in India to step up their activities. She said some powerful foreign elements are encouraging divisive and separatist tendencies in our country. Mrs Gandhi said some opposition parties are supporting the Akali demands with an eye on coming elections. The opposition leaders have neither gone into the demands in depth nor foresee the repercussions if these are accepted in toto. She said we are not thinking in terms of elections; we are concerned over the progress, economic development, and rooting out poverty.

Referring to Kar Sewa [voluntary community service], Mrs Gandhi said the opposition parties are accusing her of selecting one person for Kar Sewa [at the Golden temple] as a result of which the main Akali Dal is not taking part, while in reality, a large number of people are taking part in it.

Bharatiya Leader on Opposition Role in Punjab

BK071025 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] The Bharatiya Janata Party president, Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, has said that the Akali Dal should not miss the opportunity to participate in the Kar Sewa [voluntary community service] at the Golden Temple to give a healing touch to the situation in Punjab. Addressing a news conference in Bombay, Mr Vajpayee said the question of handing over the charge of the Golden Temple to the SGPC [Shiromani Gurdwara Prabhandak Committee — Sikh Temple Management Committee] should be considered only after the reconstruction and repair work of the temple is over. Rejecting Mrs Gandhi's charge that the opposition parties are not cooperating to resolve the Punjab issue, Mr Vajpayee told that the opposition had played a constructive role.

Minister Discusses Sri Lanka in Lok Sabha

BK081300 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The Lok Sabha has been told that the current situation in northern Sri Lanka is tense and disturbed and calls for concerted and sincere efforts for reconciliation. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Ram Niwas Mirdha, told the house in a statement that President Jayewardene has sent a message to the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, concerning these happenings. Mrs Gandhi in her reply has once again emphasized the necessity of the utmost restraint on the part of all concerned and determined pursuit of the political process to find a viable and acceptable solution. Mr Mirdha said that there are reports of sharp deterioration in the security situation in the northern part of Sri Lanka resulting in a large-scale loss of human life and property. There are also reports of encounters between Sri Lankan state security forces and Tamil militants. Loss of Tamil lives and property have been far greater. The town of Velvettithurai has been reportedly extensively shelled by the Sri Lankan Navy, causing heavy loss of life and property. A very large number of people have been rendered homeless and are accommodated in school buildings and elsewhere. Mr Mirdha pointed out that India has repeatedly expressed her opposition to all forms of violence and reaffirmed her support to Sri Lanka's integrity and unity.

Security Measures Being Tightened for VIP's

BK080937 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The Lok Sabha has been told that adequate measures have been taken to tighten security measures and no efforts will be spared for ensuring the safety of VIP's as well as those who have been threatened by extremists. This was stated by the minister of state for home in reply to a question. He said there have been reports that some terrorists from abroad may be attempting to enter the country. However, there was no specific information about arrival in New Delhi of any terrorist from Europe for perpetrating violence against important persons.

Answering a supplementary, the prime minister denied that she has been advised to cut down her tours or public meetings for security reasons. She said she has not curtailed her activities and still moves about in an open jeep as she had been doing earlier.

Army NCO's To Be Disciplined for Espionage

BK071117 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of state for defense, Mr K.P. Singh Deo, said in the Rajya Sabha today that disciplinary action has been initiated against two noncommissioned Army officers [NCO's] who were involved in an espionage case in Jammu and Kashmir. He however denied the involvement of any commissioned officer in the case. Answering supplementaries, Mr Singh Deo said the NCO's were caught following the arrest of two civilians through whom intelligence was passed.

Madras Train Stations Receive Bomb Threats

BK080358 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] A couple of trains left Madras Egmore Station yesterday with increased police security following a bomb scare. Of these two trains, no visitors were allowed to see off the passengers. This morning, Pallavan Express bound for Madurai left on time. A couple of anonymous telephonic bomb threats were received at the Madras central station also. Following this, security arrangements were strengthened.

DAWN Rebuts Cranston Criticism of Nuclear Plan

GF071801 Karachi DAWN in English 5 Aug 84 p 7

[Editorial: "Senator Cranston's Carping"]

[Text] The debate in the U.S. Congress on American military aid to Islamabad and Pakistan's nuclear programme which has been sparked off by Senator Cranston is not only ill-timed but can also be self-defeating. The Democratic senator from California has let it be known that he plans to introduce an amendment to the U.S. foreign aid bill which would require the Reagan administration to suspend the supply of F-16's to Pakistan until Islamabad dispels U.S. concern about its nuclear programme. It so happens that this concern is not new. For over eight years voices have been raised in Washington alleging that Pakistan is on its way to becoming a nuclear weapon state. So powerful have these lobbies been that the Carter administration cut off aid to Pakistan twice, first in 1977 on the plea that it was in the process of acquiring a reprocessing plant and then in 1979 when it was said to be going in for uranium enrichment. Although the Reagan administration's approach has been more pragmatic and logical, it would be wrong to assume that the critics of Pakistan's nuclear programme have been silenced. The latest to raise the issue is Senator Cranston who has alleged that Islamabad now has "the designs, the hardware, the plants and the personnel capable of producing several nuclear weapons per year." In the smear campaign launched against Pakistan, its close ally, China, has not been spared either. Islamabad is being accused of acquiring the technology for its nuclear bomb from Beijing, which has now become the target of the so-called nonproliferation lobby in Washington. As a result, the Sino-American nuclear cooperation agreement concluded in April has not been ratified so far by the U.S. Congress.

The charges made against Pakistan simply bear no scrutiny. Islamabad has repeatedly assured the American Government that its nuclear programme is designed to meet its peaceful need for energy and has no military purpose. That the Reagan administration gives credence to Pakistan's assurances is underlined by its move to restore aid to this country in 1981 when the 3.2 billion-dollar economic assistance and military sales package was concluded. In December 1981, the Congress adopted an amendment to the foreign assistance bill specifically exempting Pakistan from the application of the Symington amendment until 1987. This amendment bars aid to any country delivering or receiving nuclear enrichment equipment or technology. It need hardly be pointed out that the acquisition of nuclear technology by a country does not mean that it possesses a nuclear bomb. Instead of applying this sweeping piece of legislation to Pakistan, the American Congress provided for a waiver in this case, but stipulated an interruption of all aid in case Islamabad detonated a nuclear explosive device. It is obvious that the United States Government has not been required to adopt this extreme measure because Pakistan has not exploded any nuclear device. Hence, the new-found concern in certain sections of opinion in Washington is difficult to explain. For instance, last April Senator Cranston sought to tighten controls by getting a thinly attended meeting of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to adopt a bill requiring the American President to certify that Pakistan is not "developing a nuclear explosive device" or acquiring technology for "manufacturing or detonating a nuclear explosive device." This amendment was later modified.

The move in the U.S. to make Pakistan abandon its nuclear programme on the plea of nonproliferation speaks of the adoption of dual standards. While Pakistan has been singled out for attack, other countries which have been described as being on the nuclear threshold, namely, Israel and South Africa, have been allowed to pursue their nuclear designs unhindered and no move has been made to interrupt economic aid to, and ties with, them. In fact, they have the best of relations with the United States. Some observers see this revival of the nonproliferation debate in Washington in the context of the U.S. presidential election campaign. Whatever be the underlying motives, it is clear that resuscitating issues which were taken to have been laid at rest — at least until 1987 — will only stir up a controversy which cannot be expected to create a congenial climate for the maintenance and further development of friendly U.S.-Pakistan relations.

Nuclear Scientist To Appeal Dutch Conviction

GF030953 Karachi DAWN in English 30 Jul 84 p 2

[Text] Lahore, July 29 — Pakistani scientist Dr. A. Qadir Khan's appeal against his conviction by a city court in Holland would be filed the day after tomorrow in the District Court of Amsterdam. Mr. Badiuzzaman, the lawyer engaged by the Federal Government to defend Dr. Khan, left here for Amsterdam on Sunday via Islamabad.

In his appeal to the Dutch court, Mr Badiuzzaman intends to submit on behalf of Dr. Khan that the decision of the lower court was against the principles of natural justice as his client was not given a chance to defend himself. He intends further to argue that the decision is against international law, under which a court may not punish a person without giving him a chance to defend himself. The charges under which the petitioner was convicted and the prosecution's allegation that the petitioner had smuggled some apparatus to Pakistan with a view to using it in the atomic plant there are baseless.

The petitioner refuted the charges and submitted that the apparatus, which was alleged to have been smuggled, was available in the open market and it was not meant for atomic processing alone as it could be used for other purpose also.

In his brief appeal, Dr. Qadir Khan will contend that he was involved in this case with mala fide intent and prayed the court to declare his conviction by the lower court as illegal and without lawful authority.

According to the Dutch legal procedure, lower courts deliver summary judgments but when an accused intimates to the court that he intends to file an appeal against its order, the court pronounces a detailed judgment.

After Dr. Khan's intimation to the lower court that he intended to contest its verdict, the court sent a detailed version of its order to a local lawyer engaged by the Pakistan Government the day before yesterday. Mr. Badiuzzaman has now left for Holland to file an appeal against the verdict.

Envoy Discusses Afghanistan Talks With UN Official
BK071109 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] The Pakistani ambassador at the United Nations, Mr S. Shah-Nawaz, had talks with the personal representative of the UN secretary general on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez, in New York yesterday. They discussed matters relating to the forthcoming indirect talks on the Afghanistan question to be held in Geneva. No details of the talks were given which lasted for 1 hour.

NEPAL

Iran's Sheykh ol-Eslam Meets With Chand, Khatri

BK031700 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] The visiting Iranian deputy foreign minister, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, called on Prime Minister Kokendra Bhadur Chand in Katmandu today. Mr Sheykh ol-Eslam also called on Foreign Minister Padma Bahadur Khatri and held discussions on matters of bilateral interest and regional [words indistinct]. He also apprised Mr Khatri of his views on the Iran-Iraq war. The Iranian deputy foreign minister also expressed his desire to open an Iranian Embassy in Katmandu. Emphasizing the need to expand friendship between Iran and Nepal, he showed his interest in importing jute, rice, (?wheat), and other agricultural products from Nepal. The Iranian deputy foreign minister also indicated the desire to sell on favorable terms petroleum products to Nepal. On the question of the peace zone proposal, he said his country [words indistinct]. He will leave Katmandu for Dhaka [words indistinct] Bangladesh tomorrow. Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam paid a visit to Pakistan before he arrived in Nepal.

Comments on Visit

BK041532 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 4 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam described his 2-day visit to Nepal as (?nice) and said his talks [words indistinct] fruitful. Talking to newsmen at the Tribhuvan International Airport prior to his departure, Mr Sheykh ol-Eslam said both Nepal and Iran have decided in principle to open their embassies in respective capitals.

SRI LANKA

AFP Details Several Tamil Separatist Attacks

BK060646 Hong Kong AFP in English 0617 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Colombo, Aug 6 (AFP) — Tamil separatists launched several attacks over the weekend in northern Sri Lanka, killing three policemen and wounding others, official sources said today.

Informed sources here believe the attacks were intended to compensate for an abortive attempt by Tamil separatists to blow up two Air Lanka planes last week.

Airport bomb explosions in Madras, southern India, that killed 32 people on Thursday were triggered prematurely, the informed sources believe.

Among the dead this weekend was Assistant Superintendent Siri Jayasundera, the highest ranking policeman killed so far by militants seeking to set up an independent Tamil state in the country's north and east. Several militants were also believed to have been killed or wounded in the attacks, but the number was not known as the attackers had removed their dead and injured colleagues, the official sources said.

Mr Jayasundera was killed and at least two other policemen injured when militants ambushed and blew up a vehicle yesterday at Velvitthithurai, 415 kilometers (260 miles) from here, they said.

Another attack was made on a police station in the Mullaitivu district, about 400 kilometers (250 miles) northeast of here, killing two policemen and wounding others.

Meanwhile official sources here denied a statement in Madras by a separatist Sri Lankan Tamil leader that his followers had killed six Navy men in an ambush on Saturday near Jaffna, northern Sri Lanka. V. Prabhakaran, leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), was quoted by the sources as saying the clash was the first major confrontation between the LTTE and the Navy. Sources here said two Navy men died and three were wounded.

Militant Tamils using home-made bombs and grenades attempted to stop wounded people and corpses being removed from Jaffna hospital to the town's airport for transfer to Colombo [words indistinct] police sources said. They said the security forces (?used) heavy weapons to repel the attackers.

Meanwhile, a special Air Lanka flight was scheduled to leave today for Madras carrying about 175 relatives of 24 Sri Lankans killed in Thursday's bomb explosions. Foreign Ministry officials, Red Cross representatives and police officers were expected to accompany the relatives, who will attend a mass funeral there.

The suitcases holding the bombs were booked for Colombo and then on flights to Paris and London that were scheduled to take off from here late on Thursday, sources said.

Bank, Police Station Raided

BK081014 Hong Kong AFP in English 0958 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Colombo, Aug 8 (AFP) — Suspected Tamil separatists armed with guns and grenades attacked a bank in Jaffna and a nearby police station today, reports reaching here said. Citing reliable sources in the city, the reports said the raids came in the face of a continuing security force operation in and around the northern Sri Lankan capital aimed at "flushing out" Tamil militants.

The sources said an armed group attacked Chunnakam police station near the northern capital of Jaffna with guns and grenades after first cutting off electricity supplies. Police managed to fight off the raiders in a gun battle which raged for more than an hour, the sources said. They said the raiders began their attack shortly after dawn, shooting wildly at the bank in the centre city and sending residents diving for cover. They blew up the entrance and escaped with a safe, reports said.

Suspected Tamil separatists have been striking daily in the area since last Saturday when two Navy men were killed in an ambush. The attacks have left six security personnel dead, including two high ranking policemen, according to officials.

Meanwhile National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali today denied Indian press reports that there was a naval bombardment of the port town of Velvettithurai, 415 kilometers (260 miles) north of here, on Monday. "It is rubbish. There was no bombardment," he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Indian reports said yesterday that at least 10 Sri Lankan servicemen and 100 civilians were killed in a naval attack yesterday. Mr Athulathmudali called the reports a "campaign of disinformation." He said that the "flush out" operation that began following the weekend attack on the Navy patrol has brought 300 people in custody.

"About 20 to 30 of them are hardcore terrorists. This is what is worrying the terrorist groups and why they are engaged in a campaign of disinformation, talking of hundreds dead," Mr. Athulathmudali said. "Perhaps the terrorists killed them. We didn't," he said.

School examinations were held and shops reopened in Jaffna today after being closed yesterday as the security forces searched for militants. Militant Tamils have been fighting for a separate state in Sri Lanka's north and east.

Prime Minister Discusses Terrorist Threat to India
BK071108 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Prime Minister R. Premadasa has said that some Indians thought that Sri Lankan terrorists based on Indian soil were a threat and a danger only to Sri Lanka. But he added that the Meenambakkam Airport tragedy had showed that the terrorists who are being harbored in India were equally a threat and a danger to India as well. The prime minister was speaking when he presided over the celebrations of the 89th anniversary of the Vijayananda Dhamma School in Galle.

He further said that the bomb explosion should be an eye-opener to those who refused to see the realities created by the Sri Lankan terrorists. The Government of Sri Lanka had persistently demanded the extradition of Sri Lankan terrorists from Indian soil. If the request of the Sri Lankan Government had been acceded to and the terrorists expelled, it would have helped Sri Lanka to eradicate terrorism to a great extent. Mr Premadasa said that the attitude of the Indian Government in this regard compelled him to express his concern.

He said you will recall my statement in Parliament to this effect. On that occasion, I stated that harboring the Sri Lankan terrorists would harm Sri Lanka. I also said that it was better for India to invade us rather than harm us in this manner. He pointed out, at that time, some individuals including a few leaders of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party accused him of provoking India. They even said that he was voicing anti-Indian slogans. They were keen to indicate their support to Mrs Gandhi and India rather than help to safeguard the sovereignty of Sri Lanka. They must at least now realize that they had neither helped Mrs Gandhi nor India.

Delhi Notes Tamil Leader's Letter to Jayewardene
BK080348 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The leader of the Tamil United Liberation Front in Sri Lanka, Mr Amirthalingam, has said several hundreds of Tamils have been rendered homeless in the coastal town of Velvettithurai following the combined Army and Navy operations against the suspected Tamil extremists.

In a letter to President Jayewardene, he said several homes of Tamils were destroyed by the Armed Forces during the operations.

The Sri Lanka Government sources yesterday confirmed that Navy patrol boats opened fire on Monday on suspected Tamil extremists on the beaches around Velvettithurai and destroyed a large number of fishing boats. They said at least 22 Tamils were killed. More than 300 people have been arrested.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,812

LD071541 Tehran IRNA in English 1505 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 7, IRNA — An Iraqi intruding plane was shot down by one of the Air Force jet fighters of the Islamic Republic's Army over the southern region at 08:48 hours local time (05:18 GMT) Tuesday, said the 1812th Joint Staff communique the same day.

It also added that six vehicles, one boat and 13 bunkers and observation posts were destroyed while at least 16 Iraqis were killed in the southern fronts by the Islamic combatants during the preceding 24 hours.

The communique further said that 13 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded while 8 observation posts and three group bunkers were demolished by the fire of Islamic combatants in the western fronts.

The Iraqi forces sustained the loss of one anti-aircraft defence gun, five group bunkers and two observation posts in the northwestern fronts of Piranshah, Sar Dasht and Hajj 'Umran and 10 weaponry positions and personnel bunkers as well as two artillery pieces in Marivan operational regions. Also 35 enemy troops were killed or wounded in these fronts during the said period.

The communique further said that the motorised activities and movements of the enemy personnel were halted and their patrol operations thwarted in the northwestern operational fronts during the past day.

It concluded that the Iraqis' heavy weapons fire devastated four more homes and parts of a school building in Abadan's inhabited areas during Monday.

Iraqi Plane Shot Down After Attack on Tanker

LD071842 Tehran IRNA in English 1836 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 7, IRNA — An intruding Iraqi jet fighter was shot down by an Iranian fighter jet minutes after it launched two missiles against a Liberian oil tanker in the Persian Gulf Tuesday.

The Liberian-registered 122,945-ton *Friendship L* was hit by two missiles from a Iraqi fighter plane Tuesday morning but the fire was under control. The damage on the oil tanker was reported to be slight.

Minutes after the attack, an Iranian fighter chased the Iraqi plane and shot it down.

Iranian Airlines Shiraz-Bound Plane Hijacked

LD080633 Tehran IRNA in English 0630 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Tehran Aug. 8 IRNA — An air bus belonging to the Iranian airlines was hijacked with 304 passengers and crew members on a Tehran-Shiraz flight at 11:30 p.m. local time Tuesday (20:00 hours GMT) and landed at Bahrain airport at 02:30 [11:00 p.m. GMT).

The plane was due to land at Shiraz airport and after disembarking its passengers, take Iranian pilgrims to Jiddah, Saudi Arabia.

'World Oppressor, Zionists' Accused

GF080520 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Excerpt] According to our correspondent, the hijacked airbus of the Iran Air which was on its way from Tehran to Shiraz was commandeered at 2310 with 304 passengers by the world oppressor and international Zionists to Bahrain. It left Bahrain for Cairo at 0435 after refuelling.

Iran Air announced that in conjunction with the start of the departure of the hajj pilgrims to Mecca, the agents of the world oppressors and the international Zionists at 2310 last night commandeered flight No 250 en route from Tehran to Shiraz.

Vote of Confidence Sought for New Ministers

LD071233 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpts] According to our correspondent, the Majlis held an open session this morning. The Majlis began its session chaired by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani and then continued its work presided over by Mr Mohammad Mehdi Rabbani-Amlashi, deputy speaker of the Majlis. During today's session, the prime minister's letter on presentation of the cabinet ministers, along with his request of a vote of confidence for the government, was read. The text of Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi's letter to the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly is as follows:

In his exalted name. Honorable Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, Brother Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani: In implementation of Article 2 on the law of adding articles to the internal Constitution of the Majlis about requesting a vote of confidence and method of organizing it, as approved on the ninth of Mordad 63 [31 July 1984], a list of the Cabinet ministers' names and also names of those brothers in charge of the ministries of information, justice, and housing and urban development — selected in accordance with the articles 133 and 136 — is enclosed in this letter. I hereby request a vote of confidence for them. A list is also attached giving biographies, achievements, and future programs of each minister. I would like to add that the names of the state ministers, who on the basis of the vote of confidence of the Majlis are members of the existing Cabinet, are also written in the attached list in order to make sure that no mistake has occured in implementing Article 2 of the abovementioned law. It is natural that the Islamic Consultative Assembly would make a decision on this matter.

[Signed] Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister.

The names of the Cabinet ministers are as follows:

Messrs 'Ali Akbar Parvaresh, the minister of education and training
Mohammad Khatami, the minister of Islamic guidance
Hoseyn Namazi, the minister of economic and financial affairs

'Ali Akbar Velayati, the minister of foreign affairs
Hasan 'Abedi-Ja'fari, the minister of commerce
Hadi Manafi, the minister of health
Javad Ejei, the minister of state and head of the welfare organization
Mohammad Taqi Banki, the minister of state and the head of the planning and budget organization
Morteza Nabavi, the minister of post, telegraph and telephone
Colonel Mohammad Salimi, the minister of defense
Mohammad Hadinezhad-Hoseynian, the minister of roads and transport
Bijan Namdar-Zanganeh, the minister of reconstruction jihad
Mohsen Rafiqdust, the minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps
Mostafa Hashemi, the minister of industries
Behzad Nabavi, the minister for heavy industries
Mohammad 'Ali Najafi, the minister of culture and higher education
Hoseyn Nili-Ahmadabadi, the minister for mines and metals
Abdolqasem Sarhadizadeh, the minister of labor and social affairs
'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri, the minister of the interior
'Abbas 'Ali Zali, the minister of agriculture
Hasan Ghafuri-Fard, the minister of energy
Seyyed Mohammad Gharazi, the minister of oil
Gholamreza Aqazadeh, the minister of state in executive affairs
Mohammad Mohammadi-Reyshahri, the minister of information
Hasan Habibi, the minister of justice
Sorajeddin Kazerani, the minister of housing and urban development.

The next open session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly will be at 0730 tomorrow morning.

Musavi Denies Suez Mining at Press Conference

LD072324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1710 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Press conference by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi with unidentified reporters on 7 August in Tehran — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Musavi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

[Question] [words indistinct].

[Musavi] When we talk about weakening the government we should pay attention to two points — one, the government is an effective organization of the regime, a part of the regime of the Islamic Republic. If the Islamic Republic is faced with hostility by the superpowers and their allies, it follows that we will witness a great effort internationally and inside the country to weaken the government. When we talk about weakening the government, we have a general concept in mind without any particular reference to the present government. We believe that when the Hezbollah is present in Iran and when a government comes to power, it will naturally have the same inclination as the party of God. Whatever form that government might take, it will face hostility and attempts to weaken it by arogant opposition powers and their agents inside the country. This issue should be separated from others. Another point is that obviously when a society is alive and free, there will be various forces active inside the revolution. It might be that free interaction of these forces would create rivalries which might result in a weakening of the government.

[Question] At the Majlis session in connection with the vote of confidence for Your Excellency, it was stated that your government's agricultural policies have been unsuccessful. What is your answer?

[Musavi] At that session we had several discussions. Agriculture was not discussed very much except for the comments of our great brother Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani on the fact of our inability to operate in several provinces, the increase in the country's population, and several other points. With regard to agriculture, we are doing what we can to provide the villagers with water and services and other rural projects which have been carried out by the reconstruction crusade. In this connection the government might be criticized saying that it has not been able to deal with differences between the life in cities and in villages. We believe that this process is a gradual one and cannot be achieved at once. Huge numbers of our oppressed people live in cities, and providing them with services is one of the duties of the government. They are among the staunch supporters of the regime; they give us soldiers, Guards; they protect the regime, maintain Islamic values in the society and all over the country. Therefore, the governemnt cannot remain indifferent toward them and divert its attention to the villages. The process of dealing with the problems of our villages is a gradual one. If this gradual move is in the interest of improving the situation in our villages, then we should admit that it is the right policy.

[Question] What is the situation with regards to the country's imports and exports?

[Musavi] The government is criticized because the import figures for the year 62 [March 83 - March 84] have been very high. I emphatically reject this criticism. Our imports have been high in 62. But if we study the reasons we will see that, comparing these figures with those of previous years, the lack of order in our foreign trade and a fall in our foreign exchange reserves had unnaturally brought our imports down. This had caused the raw material in the country to dry up during the last part of 60 and the first part of 61. Many factories experienced difficulties because of a shortage of raw materials. Since the second part of 62, when our foreign exchange reserves began to increase because of government policies, we were able to have imports. But there is a rush and pressure by production units to absorb more raw materials. Now, when we talk about an increase in imports we should take into account the kinds of income — how much of the imports are consumer goods. I should state here that a very small percentage of the imports is consumer goods. Of course we have imported what the people needed. If we were short of wheat we bought more.

We expect the volume of our export this year to be about 18 to 20 million [no unit specified]. Of course we should try to decrease this figure in the coming years.

[Question] [Words indistinct] How does the government view the ways of achieving and attaining peace and what has been the fate of the recent moves by the Islamic countries in Saudi Arabia for attaining peace and ending the war?

[Musavi] In the first place, when we use the term peace, this peace is something which, in accordance with our Constitution, is up to the leader and is not an issue in the hands of the government. The question of the war is also somehow linked with the issue of the leader. The only thing is that the government is now a powerful instrument in the service of this war, which has been imposed on us, and its victorious continuation is in the interest of the aspirations of the Islamic Revolution. In connection with this war, we cannot agree to a peace and compromise. That would not be in the interest of our system. it would not tally with the values of our Islamic Revolution to even think of such a compromise and such a peace which would in effect wipe out the achievements of the Islamic Revolution. For this reason the very thing that we have said right from the beginning in connection with this imposed war is the same now that we have the upper hand in the fronts and Iraq is on the defensive as it was during the time when a huge part of our country was under the occupation of the Saddamist forces. Whether on the military or political level, the identical issue is also now being pursued; that is, the attaining of identical conditions, the attaining of the selfsame demands which we raised on the world level. For this reason when there is talk or rumors as to whether political moves are in conflict with military moves, I say there is no such thing whatsoever and I rebut such things. Our political moves are precisely aimed at the same targets and aspirations which we are still pursuing on the military fronts.

On the world level, a great deal of talk and discussion has taken place in connection with imposing peace and compromise on us. These discussions are now taking place in the Arab countries, in other places, and in the Islamic Conference. These are not separate from the efforts which have taken place in the past. In this very session, in this very room and hall in which you are sitting, the leaders of these Islamic countries have many times come along and sat here. They have talked and held discussions in order to impose a peace on us which could not satisfy our conditions. But such a thing did not take place and we spoke our righteous mind. Now, too, the issue is precisely poised in such a state. We are pursuing our aims on the military level. We are strongly present on the fronts. We have the upper hand and we are ready to undertake our offensive. At the same time we have our own activities on the political level in order to explain our demands to other nations and governments in the world today.

[Question] (?Forgive me for asking you) this last question which our colleagues have not asked you. As you may recall, the Suez Canal has recently been mined and foreign ships are either being destroyed or damaged thanks to hitting these mines. Could you please tell us what the view of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Government is with regard to this question? How do you link this problem with the imposed war and the Persian Gulf adventure?

[Musavi] On the whole they attribute this to the Islamic Jihad Organization [Sazman-E Jahad-E Eslami], and the Islamic Jihad Organization is unknown to us. As it appears, it is an organization with Islamic leanings and claims to defend the Islamic Revolution. I would enter into a discussion here about the nature of this organization since our government knows nothing about this problem. As to the Suez Canal, an attempt has been made to somehow or another attribute this problem to Iran. I also rebut this. The government in Iran has not had any hand whatsoever in this area. A pretext has been made of this problem in order to bother our ships which go through the Suez Canal. I was just informed this morning, two of our ships have recently been searched there. One of these was searched even before these explosions and the other was searched following these explosions. They might claim that there has been some sort of violation of international regulations in this area. But we warn that we cannot remain silent in this respect if such actions are to continue. We have repeatedly proved that tit for tat is part and parcel of our clear-cut policy. We will not allow ourselves to sustain a loss without giving a response. For this reason, while I strongly deny that we have planted a mine in the Suez Canal or in the rest of the waterways in the midst of free seas, I also declare the position that the Government of the Islamic Republic cannot remain silent and allow ships which should sail to and fro in peace to be bothered in that place.

[Question] Finally, could you be so gracious as to tell us if you have a special position? On behalf of our friends who heard (?your conference), I would like to thank you.

[Musavi] I have nothing further to add to our brothers. God willing, I hope we will be able to have many more of these sessions and discuss the country's important problems. Our brothers could then ask questions they have received from people in reaction to events in society, and the government could put forward its point of view with candor and clarity — God willing! And peace be upon you.

Discusses Khomeyni Meeting, Economy

LD081841 Tehran IRNA in English 1829 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Tehran, Aug. 7, IRNA — Asked on Monday's meeting with Imam Khomeyni, he said he discussed foreign reserve, distribution, foreign policy and other matters as he usually does in talks with the imam.

He further said the imam accepted his proposal to give away small industrial units run by the Mostazafin Foundation to charity institutions.

He said the management of these units were not profitable for the foundation, which is a vast conglomeration of large and small industries confiscated from the defunct shah's family and associates as well as "billions of rials" worth of agricultural lands.

The prime minister said the Majlis must seriously consider the "legal vacuum" in the country specially on the economy in order to help the government to run its affairs.

He said although the bill on distribution regulations had been presented seven months ago, its initial approval in the Majlis today could be an effective step forward.

On the other hand the Majlis had complained that the introduction of unimportant bills by the government had been a stumbling block in the way of important bills, he said.

He said ways were being considered to help government employees withstand inflation. But he added that wage increases would not be a fundamental solution because it would bring inflation even higher.

The housing shortage, he added would ease in the next two years with the elimination of red tape and making use of maximum facilities.

Musavi Opposes Foreign Presence in Gulf, Indian Ocean

LD071916 Tehran IRNA in English 1832 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 7, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi Tuesday reiterated the Islamic Republic of Iran's strong opposition against the presence of foreign powers in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean. "The presence of an outside power in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf would be a pretext for the presence of the rival power," the prime minister said.

Musavi, who was speaking in a meeting here Tuesday with the Czechoslovak ambassador to Tehran, Miroslav Oplt, further pointed out that the future of the region belongs to the nations and that the awareness of the nations will eliminate the presence of the U.S. in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

Expansion of political and economic ties between the Islamic Republic and Czechoslovakia was also discussed in the meeting.

U.S. Launches 'Smear Campaign' Over Red Sea Mines

LD071839 Tehran IRNA in English 1825 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug 7, IRNA — The world arrogance has launched out a new plot for villifying the Islamic Republic. During the past few weeks there have been reports in the world media of cargo ships under different flags hitting mines in the Red Sea area and incurring little to serious damage.

At its start the accounts of the blasts were dealt with as being commonplace without even mentioning the names of the ships reportedly damaged. This was true despite the fact that in similar instances insurance companies show immediate interest and respond promptly by declaring the name and physical specifications of subject ships damaged in the blasts. But after a few days news imperialism focused more seriously on the issue and consequently the coverage of news agencies on the Red Sea incidents became more detailed and inclusive.

The news agencies reported that several ships of the Eastern and Western countries hit mines at the Red Sea and sustained severe damages. In the midst of dispatches it was also said that the mines had been adroitly placed in a manner to ensure that mines with lower blast power are placed at depth of three metres below water level, and more powerful mines at the deeper sea bed. As dispatches flowed in on the hot issue, AFP claimed in a dispatch that an anonymous caller claiming to speak for the "(Islamic) Jihad Organisation" had telephoned the news agency in Paris saying his group had planted mines in the Red Sea area.

Early this week Western radio stations claimed that an Iranian ship had recently twice cruised in the Red Sea — a cue for a concerted plot to increase pressure against the Islamic Republic of Iran. While the situation continued Egypt's defence minister, Abu Ghazalah, said two countries were involved in mining the Red Sea. Naturally he refused to identify the names of the two countries, but the world media said in commentaries that by the "two countries" the Egyptian official meant Iran and Libya... [IRNA ellipses]

A pondering on the Western media reports of what is going on in the Red Sea readily proves that the world arrogance has launched out a smear campaign against the Islamic Republic of Iran principally with a view to:

— putting a stop to the growing belief in the region that Iran does not intend to expand the war and create unrest in the region

— impairing the reputation of the Islamic Revolution of Iran among the Muslims of the region with allegations of jeopardising lives of pilgrims on ships going to Mecca by the Red Sea, and creating a hostile atmosphere against the Islamic revolution

— pitting Iran against the various countries whose ships are damaged in the Red Sea

— increasing U.S. presence in the crucial states of the Red Sea on the pretext of safeguarding the security of strait of Bab al Mandab and the Suez Canal

— preventing Iranian cargo vessels from navigation in the Red Sea with the idea of increasing economic prssure upon Iran

— suppressing Muslim revolutionaries in Egypt on such false charges which accuse them of having conspired with foreign elements for the purpose of making the region insecure.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has continuously, and even after repeated attacks by Iraq upon ships and oil tankers of third countries, has stressed a need for ensuring the safe passage of ships at the Persian Gulf, and has taken any necessary measure for fulfilling this goal.

To accuse the Islamic Republic of Iran of having mined the Red Sea is indeed too far-fetched a plot to have any effect whatsoever, especially because it is now too self-explanatory to exploit for political propaganda against Iran. After all the Muslim world is consciously aware that in the wake of their set-backs in confrontation with the Islamic Revolution, U.S. imperialism and its agents are raging in their craving for vengeance.

Foreign Ministry Condemns Suez Mining 'Conspiracy'

LD080753 Tehran IRNA in English 0745 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 8 IRNA — The Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Islamic Republic strongly condemned a new conspiracy by the U.S. and the Zionist regime in Suez Canal and the Red Sea

to damage the reputation of the Islamic Revolution and Republic. It also drew the attention of the world public to the serious consequences of such moves and urged international organizations to introduce the agents behind these moves to the world so that security would return to the international waterway.

In a statement issued by the ministry on Tuesday, it was stressed that the mining of the Red Sea and its indirect attribution to the Islamic Republic through imperialist mass media, was taking place at a time that Muslim nations in the region still remember the disgraceful withdrawal of American troops from Lebanon and are witnessing compulsory withdrawal of the Jerusalem-occupying regime from that country.

Therefore, the statement further said, it was clear that in order to retaliate for their defeats and the failure of their political and military schemes in the Persian Gulf, they would resort to such a move, this time in the Red Sea.

The U.S. Administration, said the statement, has proved to the world its dirty objectives, by mining the Nicaraguan harbors and has thus aroused a strong reaction by the aware nations of the world. And now that this vital waterway in the region is being used by hajj pilgrims, it is trying with the aid of the Zionist regime, to make the waterway insecure and thus create intimidation in harming this great congress (hajj), added the statement. Through such pretexts, it added, the U.S. is after its presence in the region.

Khomeyni Confirms Laws on Sale of Currency Abroad

LD071826 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] in connection with the sale of the country's currency abroad, Mr Nurbakhsh, the governor of the Central Bank, addressed a letter to Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, asking his guidance. The text of the letter to the imam of the nation is as follows:

In his exalted name, to the presence of the great leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeyni: Would you please announce your opinion on the sale of the country's currency abroad, considering that taking bank notes over and above the permitted limit is illegal and such an action would deal a blow to the honor and esteem of the Islamic Republic.

[Signed] Mohsen Nurbakhsh.

The text of imam of the nation's reply is as follows:

In his exalted name, violating the regulations set by the government, especially with regard to the mentioned matter, is not permissible.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni

25 Drug Smugglers Executed in Tehran 7 Aug

LD071234 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] By the verdict of anti-narcotics tribunals of the Islamic Revolution Court in Tehran, 25 professional and international drug smugglers were executed in Tehran at dawn today on charges of long-standing and intensive activities in the preparation and sale of narcotics.

Government of Kuwait Expels 27 More Iranians

GF071652 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, in continuation of its inimical policy, the Kuwaiti Government expelled 27 more Iranians. These persons arrived via the Persian Gulf at the ports of Genaveh and Bushehr during the past few days and were then housed at the special camp for repatriates.

OPEC Oil Ministers To Visit Tehran 8 Aug

LD061331 Tehran IRNA in English 1309 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Caracas, Aug. 6, IRNA — Oil ministers of Algeria, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela will arrive in Tehran Wednesday morning to hold talks with high-ranking Iranian officials.

Venezuelan minister of energy and mines, Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, left here for At-ta'if, Saudi Arabia, this morning to pay a 10-day visit to the Middle Eastern OPEC member countries, including the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Hernandez Grisanti is accompanied by the UAE minister of petroleum and mineral resources, Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah and the Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industry, Belkacem Nabi.

In an announcement, the Venezuelan Ministry of Energy and Mines said that Hernandez Grisanti's visit was taking place following the decision of a recent Vienna OPEC meeting for the visit of OPEC Ministers to the OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing countries.

The objective of the visit, the announcement added, was to hold talks with high-ranking officials of those countries for the expansion and development of ties, as well as for the stabilization of oil prices, observing the ceiling production of 17.5 million barrels per day and the determined production quota for every member country.

In its two-day meeting in Vienna, started on July 10, OPEC decided to dispatch ministerial delegations every few months to OPEC member countries to hold negotiations with high-ranking officials there in order to establish further coordination among member-states.

Last Saturday, the Libyan oil minister, Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur, who presently heads OPEC, together with his Indonesian counterpart and a group of oil experts arrived in the UAE and met and conferred with officials there. The delegation is also expected to visit Nigeria.

Foreign Ministry Official Leaves for DPRK, Japan

LD071542 Tehran IRNA in English 1408 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 7 IRNA — The deputy for economic and international affairs of the Foreign Ministry, Hoseyn Kazempur Ardabili, left Tehran for Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and Japan, Monday night.

Kazempur Ardabili, who is heading a delegation, will hold talks with officials of the two countries on mutual economic issues and relations.

Ministry Wins Court Case Against U.S. Interests

LD071326 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] The Mines and Metals Ministry has announced: Following the claims made at The Hague International Court of Justice against this ministry by the American shareholders of the Zarshuran mining company, who had asked for damages of $450 million following the nationalisation of this comany, which resulted in the confiscation and seizure of their unjust interests, the Algerian accords team of the Mines and Metals Ministry won the case with their documented and expert defense; and the International Court of Justice at the Hague rejected the claim. Once again it was proved that claims made by the international swindlers are unfounded and false.

Iranian Experts Abroad Invited To Visit

LD071029 Tehran IRNA in English 1005 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 7, IRNA — Members and head of the bureau which is affiliated with the Prime Ministry whose responsibility is to attract committed and responsible experts abroad, met and conferred Monday with the general prosecutor of the country, Ayatollah Sane'i.

After hearing a report on the efforts induced in attracting and employing Iranian experts in foreign countries, Ayatollah Sane'i, reiterating the importance of the issue, also previously emphasised by Imam Khomeyni and Ayatollah Montazeri, outlined the responsibilites of the bureau in facing poisonous propaganda of counterrevolutionaries abroad. He said one of the tasks of the bureau is to enlighten the minds of Iranian experts and reveal the wicked plots of counterrevolutionaries in drawing a false face of the Islamic Republic for experts outside the country.

He said the bureau could invite Iranian experts and graduates from abroad for a short visit to Iran.

At the end of the meeting, Ayatollah Sane'i, referring to general amnesty by Imam Khomeyni, issued necessary guidelines on judicial issues.

Operations Against Iraqi Regime Reported

GF061830 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Last month the Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries attacked the summer palace of Saddam Husayn and a military center of the Zionist regime ruling in Iraq in the city of Al-'Amadiyah in northern Iraq. They inflicted heavy human and material losses.

The Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries also attacked a grouping center of the Saddamist forces in northern Iraq, killing nine, wounding two, and setting two vehicles of the Saddamists on fire.

Clandestine Reports Terrorists Meeting in Tehran

GF071116 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] International professional terrorists are holding a conference at the Hilton Hotel in Tehran. According to the Nejat-e Iran correspondent, the seminar began on Sunday [5 August] on the 2d floor of Tehran's Hilton Hotel, which is now called the Revolution Hotel. The seminar began behind closed doors and is being attended by international terrorists.

The seminar is being convened by a foundation within the clerics regime which was formerly called the committee of Islamic movement and is now called the committee of the movement of the world oppressed. It is an official body charged with spreading international terrorism. The Nejat-e Iran correspondent reports that the secretary of this committee is one 'Azizi, who is also a deputy in the Foreign Ministry of Khomeyni. Other members of the committee are: Musavi Khoveyniha; Mohsen Reza'i, the Revolutionary Guards commander; Ahmad Khomeyni; Dr Teymal; Ahmad Salim; and Mohtashempur [as heard], Khomeyni's ambassador in Damascus.

The subcommittees of the movement of the world oppressed are spread to various parts the world and have extremist terrorists and antigovernment terrorists in various countries as their members. They are engaged in activities against their respective ruling governments. In this connection, two persons from among the so-called Khomeyni diplomats are charged with overseeing these international terrorist groups who also convey the orders from Tehran to these groups.

The Nejat-e Iran correspondent adds that the Tehran seminar aims at coordinating and centralizing the activities of the special forces for destruction of these international terrorists. The seminar has been particularly organized to carry out acts of terrorism against the interests of certain Western countries. The officials

of the Khomeyni regime, who have failed to solve the problems within their own country, have allocated 1.6 billion tuman annually for this committee, paid out of Iranian oil revenues, to be placed in the hands of these professional terrorists and destroyers.

The Nejat-e Iran correspondent says that this seminar includes terrorists from Ireland, the Basque area in Spain, Polisario mercenaries, terrorists from Corsica, South African terrorists, a group from the Indian factions, two Lebanese terrorist organizations, one terrorist group in the Persian Gulf, one Italian terrorist organization, and three terrorist members of a movement in South America.

Deputy Trade Minister, Delegation Visit Bulgaria

For Bulgarian reportage of the visit to Bulgaria by Mojtaba Khosrowtaj, deputy minister of trade, see the Bulgaria section of the 8 August Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT*.